

Message Text

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11

ACTION SS-20

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FM AMEMBASSY MADRID

TO AMEMBASSY LISBON FLASH

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E.O. 11652 N/A

TAGS: OVIP SP

SUBJECT: SECVISIT

REF JERUSALEM 1492

TALKING POINTS FOR DECEMBER 19 TOAST.

1. THE MADRID VISIT WAS SATISFYING AND REWARDING BECAUSE CONDUCTED IN A SPIRIT OF FRIENDSHIP AND UNDERSTANDING.

2. THE VISIT TO THE PRADO PROVIDED FOOD FOR THOUGHT AND AN UNFORGETTABLE PARENTHESIS.

3. OUR RELATIONS ARE EXCELLENT. LET'S KEEP THIS IN MIND AS WE PREPARE TO NEGOTIATE THE NEXT AGREEMENT.

4. WE SHALL ALWAYS SUPPORT SPAIN'S DESIRE TO BE AN INTEGRAL PART OF WESTERN EUROPE, REJECTING THE FALSE ALTERNATIVE OF CHOOSING BETWEEN THE LATTER AND THE US.

AS I PREPARE TO LEAVE THIS BEAUTIFUL LAND OF YOURS, I WISH TO EXPRESS MY PLEASURE FOR THE OPPURTUNITY I HAD TO MEET WITH SPAIN'S HIGHEST AUTHORITIES AN WITH THOSE OF OUR COLLEAGUES WHO LABOR IN THE FIELD OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS. THE CROWDED HOURS I HAVE SPENT IN THIS PATRICIAN CITY HAVE BEEN MOST SATISFYING AND PARTICULARLY REWARDING. ON THE ONE HAND, THE

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VARIOUS MEETINGS HAVE BEEN YET ANOTHER PROOF THAT WHEN FRIENDS

MEET IN AN ATMOSPHERE OF TRUST AND MUTUAL RESPECT THERE ARE NO OBSTACLES THAT CANNOT BE OVERCOME. THERE IS A SPECIAL PLEASURE IN KNOWING THAT EVEN THE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES BELONG IN THE REAL OF THE CIVILIZED DIALOGUE BETWEEN MEMBERS OF THE SAME FAMILY.

AT THE SAME TIME, I LEAVE MADRID WITH THE UN-FORGETTABLE MEMORY OF EL PRADO. TO BE ABLE TO STEAL EVEN A FEW MOMENTS FROM THE AFFAIRS OF STATE AND SPEND THEM IN THE COMPANY OF VELAZQUEZ, GOYA, EL GRECO AND OTHER MASTERS IS INDEED A PRICELESS PRIVILEGE, AN EXPERIENCE THAT CANNOT BE DUPLICATED. THOSE PAINTINGS THAT HAVE WITNESSED CENTURIES OF HISTORY ARE A SOBERING REMINDER OF OUR TRANSIENT STATUS, AND MAKE ONE WONDER HOW FUTURE GENERATIONS WILL LOOK UPON OURS.

THE SATISFACTION WITH WHICH I LEAVE MADRID IS ALSO THE RESULT OF KNOWING THAT THE RELATIONS BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES COULD HARDLY BE BETTER. OUR TWO PEOPLES ADMIRE AND RESPECT EACH OTHER, COLLABORATE IN A VARIETY OF FIELDS, AND PROVIDE AN EXAMPLE OF WHAT INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS OUGHT TO BE IN A CIVILIZED WORLD. LET THIS BE A CONSTANT REMINDER FOR US ALL AS WE BEGIN THE PROCESS OF NEGOTIATIONS AIMED AT SHAPING THE RELATIONS BETWEEN OUR TWO NATIONS IN THE SECOND HALF OF THE PRESENT DECADE. AS ALL OF US, IN WASHINGTON AND HERE IN MADRID, GIVE JUST THOUGHT TO OUR COUNTRY'S INTERESTS LET US NEVER FORGET WHAT UNITES US IN THIS DIVIDED WORLD. LET US ALWAYS REMEMBER THAT OUR INTERESTS WILL NEVER BE SERVED BY A NARROW APPROACH. FOR OUR PART, AS WE HAVE IN THE PAST, WE RECOGNIZE THAT SPAIN IS A VITAL PART OF WESTERN EUROPE AND WE SUPPORT ITS DESIRE FOR FULL INTEGRATION IN WEST EUROPEAN AND ATLANTIC INSTITUTIONS. WE DO NOT ACCEPT THE FALSE CONCEPT THAT SPAIN MUST CHOOSE BETWEEN US AND EUROPE. OF COURSE, SPAIN IS AN INTEGRAL PART OF WESTERN CIVILIZATION, JUST AS WE ARE A PART OF IT, JUST AS OUR OTHER FRIENDS AND ALLIES ARE A PART OF IT. IT IS WITH THESE THOUGHTS IN MIND THAT I PREPARE TO LEAVE MADRID, AND THESE ARE THE THOUGHTS I WOULD LIKE TO LEAVE BEHIND. THERE IS NO DOUBT THAT IF WE KEEP THOSE CONCEPTS BEFORE OUR EYES IN THE MONTHS AND YEARS TO COME WE SHALL SERVE OUR COUNTRIES WELL, WHILE WE SHALL SERVE THE CAUSE OF FRIENDSHIP AND COOPERATION.

IT IS IN THIS SPIRIT, MR. MINISTER, THAT I RAISE MY CUP IN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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TOAST TO YOUR CHIEF OF STATE AND TO THE GOOD FORTUNES OF THIS GREAT LAND OF SPAIN.
RIVERO

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